

As the Network Administrator for our small, rural, public Library District I was very concerned to learn that Qwest and other LECs have filed suit to remove resale requirements on DSL circuits for CLECs. DSL only became available in the Florence and Mapleton areas last fall, and I am convinced that only the availability of local CLECs to provide DSL via resale has kept the price affordable through competition. I purchase DSL access for our Mapleton Branch, using a local ISP rather than Qwest and the price is affordable. As our library district is supported only by taxes collected within district boundaries, having affordable, reliable broadband access is crucial. I am also a member of the City of Florence Telecommunications citizen's advisory committee and have in the past been the library's representative to the CoastNet consortium, both efforts to bring affordable, reliable broadband access to the rural Oregon coast. I have seen how only government (PUC) enforcement has been effective in forcing even the minimal progress the LEC (Qwest) has made to improve both POTS in the area, let alone bring in a small amount of broadband service. Please consider the impact on rural areas if Qwest and other LECs are allowed to squash the little bit of competition that CLECs provide in the area of DSL. Thank you for your time and consideration of these comments.